FIVE CENTS

The Suffragist

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE
CONGRESSIONAL UNION FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

MAY 22, 1915

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"When I think of the flag * * * I see * * * strips of parchment upon which are written the rights of liberty—of justice."

(President Wilson, New York, May 17)

Vol. III MAY 22, 1915 No. 21

The Suffragist

Weekly Organ of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

1420 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage

National *Political* *Non-Partisan*

National Headquarters
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News of the Week

Illinois Women Show Vote Has Caused Reform

REPRESENTATIVES of over ten thousand women met in Monmouth, Ill., to confer upon the effects of equal suffrage in their towns and cities. A score of cities ranging in size from Keithsburg, the youngest suffrage baby, to Peoria, Galesburg and Moline, were represented.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association and the Monmouth Civic League.

The conference is the first one of a series to be held down state for the purpose of encouraging the newer organizations and for promoting sentiment which will lead to universal suffrage in Illinois.

Very interesting stories were told by the women representatives. From Bushnell the following incident was related. "Two years ago there were few women in Bushnell who believed in equal suffrage. Those who did believe in it went to work on the rest. They counted eight hundred women who were eligible to vote. At the last election, seven hundred and sixty-eight of those women voted. Now the Mayor has appointed a commission of women to superintend the cleaning up of the city."

From the town of Iola comes this report: The town was without proper fire protection and the women got behind the movement for a new water system, their votes carrying the issue. A citizen of Moline reported the establishment of four playgrounds in that city which had been manned by a woman director through the efforts of the women voters. Two hundred children visit each playground daily. Women are now members of school boards in Moline and there are two women clerks in every polling place at every election.

Miss Jane Addams in England

THE resolutions in favor of peace adopted recently by the International Congress of Women at The Hague were presented to the British Government by a delegation headed by Miss Jane Addams, of Chicago. The other members were Dr. Anita Jacobs, of Holland, and Signorina Genoli, of Italy. Before leaving England Miss Addams was received by Premier Asquith. All three women had an interview with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Sir Edward Grey. The women of London gave a reception to Miss Addams on May 12 previous to her departure to Holland. Many prominent pacificists and suffragists attended. Miss Addams is expecting to go into Germany from Holland if it can be arranged.

Suffrage Growth in the South

MRS. MILTON HUMES, of Huntsville, Alabama, stated at the Congressional Union office last Wednesday that at the Alabama Convention at Huntsville in 1914 she had the pleasure of announcing that there were eleven suffrage organizations in the state, and a membership of a thousand people. At the 1915 Convention held at Tuscaloosa, it was announced that there were forty-six organizations in Alabama and a membership of five thousand.

Votes for Working Women

WILLIAM D. HAYWOOD, the radical labor leader, in testifying before the Industrial Relations Commission, recommended the enfranchisement of women as one method of allaying industrial unrest. He said: "In the political state naturally all women should vote, but it is even more necessary in the industrial field. Women are productive units and should have a voice in the distribution of their labor power, as well as a voice in controlling the conditions under which they labor."

The Silent Argument for Woman Suffrage

THE Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco is eloquent with a form of "silent speech" for woman suffrage. The speech is only a little button worn by thousands of Western women. It says, "I'm a voter," that's all. The visualization of a fact, however, impresses all the world, and when thousands of well-dressed, gentle and dignified women display their citizenship as if it were a badge of honor, it awakens a desire for emulation in other women. There are nearly four million women, 3,664,444 to be exact, who are qualified to wear that button and enough have been turned out for all of them. These buttons are in a very real sense the gift of the men of the suffrage states to their sisters.

Chicago Housewives to Boycott

A LEGION of Chicago's voting housewives is making ready to reduce the high cost of living by resorting to a boycott. Members of the Clean Food Club, and other housewives, plan to start a boycott on the finer cuts of lamb until the price returns to normal.

The Test of Virtue Where Women Vote

A CALIFORNIA Indian, convicted of murder, but with extenuating circumstances, has been recommended for probation by the county probation officer. All of the white population near where he lived signed the probation petition, which stated that "he is a good Indian, as he carries his papoose and does not make a slave of his squaw."

Speaking for Two

MRS. MARSHALL was recently entertained by a delegation of the New Orleans City Federation of Women's Clubs. To a member of this delegation she said, "I do not belong to any organization. I never made a speech in my life and probably never shall. Mr. Marshall seems to think that if I ever started speaking publicly, I might acquire the habit very regularly; and keep it up on all occasions. I do not belong to a card club, either, social organizations being tabooed as well as the federation clubs."

"Mrs. Marshall," says the *Times-Picayune*, "represents the domestic type of womanhood so refreshing to many who have not entered actively in the great woman movement, and travels with her husband constantly."

Englishwomen in Municipal Service

THE boom in recruiting in England has made tremendous inroads in the municipal staffs. To such an extent has this been the case that women are increasingly taking their positions. A large number of women have taken the place of street car conductors who have enlisted.

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NEW YORK WOMEN ASK NATIONAL ENFRANCHISEMENT

WHILE President Wilson was in New York City last week a strong effort was made by New York women to lay before the President their demand for national enfranchisement. To their great astonishment and regret the President refused to see any representative of New York suffragists, or even to answer their letter requesting an interview.

The President arrived in New York last Monday to review a parade of sailors and to inspect the Atlantic Fleet, gathered in the North River. He stayed two days, occupied with a number of social engagements, and left the city on Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont agreed to lead a deputation to the President while he was in New York, asking him to give his support to the national suffrage amendment. The purpose of this delegation was to indicate to the President the deep sentiment in favor of the national enfranchisement of women which exists all over the country. The women of New York State were anxious to utilize the opportunity of the President's visit to make him realize the strong support for the federal suffrage amendment in their state.

The following letter was therefore written by Mrs. Belmont to the President:

President Woodrow Wilson,
Hotel Biltmore, New York.
Dear Mr. President:

As the New York representative of the national executive committee of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, and as a representative of 4,000 women in New York City, members of the association of which I am president, I respectfully request that during your stay in this city you accord an audience to a deputation of New York suffragists.

We are exceedingly anxious to take advantage of this opportunity afforded by your visit to this city to lay before you the deep interest of New York women in the national suffrage amendment known as the Susan B. Anthony amendment, and to ask your support of that amendment.

The present grave international situation makes us feel that it is more imperative than ever that women be given some share in determining the political policy of the government of their country, since they, as well as men, are affected by all government measures.

Therefore, we appeal to you at this moment to allow us to submit our question and ask your powerful aid in this national movement to remove the political disabilities of women.

Very sincerely,
(Signed) Mrs. OLIVER H. P. BELMONT.

Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain, Miss Florence Harmon, Secretary of the Political Equality League of New York, and Miss Mabel Schofield, formerly of the staff of the Women's Political Union of Brooklyn, agreed to take the request to the President, and to make an appointment for the New York delegation if possible. Although Mrs. Boissevain was at the last moment prevented by her law work from going, Miss Harmon and Miss Schofield went to the Hotel Biltmore where the President was dining with the city officials. After some difficulty they found their way to the door of the dining hall on the nineteenth floor of the hotel. They waited at the door during the entire time that the President was there, trying to get someone to take their message to him, but they found no one who would promise to do so.

As they quietly waited in the hotel corridor, they suddenly found themselves surrounded by rows of policemen, who closed in around them in a circle. They immediately stood up on a sofa near them, and looking over the policemen's heads saw the President and his company emerge from the dining room.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Who Asked President Wilson to Receive a Deputation of New York Suffragists

Miss Harmon, holding the letter above her head, then said: "Mr. President, we have a letter here from a group of New York suffragists asking you to receive a deputation of women who wish to lay before you their interest in the national suffrage amendment." The President passed by without paying any attention to this statement, and the police withdrew as soon as he had left the floor. The President had obviously heard everything that was said, for the room was perfectly quiet while Miss Harmon spoke.

Determined, however, to deliver the letter, and to give the President an opportunity to send a formal answer to it, they took a taxi to the dock where the President was to embark; but he had reached there and set sail for the *Mayflower* when they arrived. It was impossible for them to go out to the *Mayflower* themselves, for all water traffic in its neighborhood had been stopped. They found, however, Mr. Schemm, the President's stenographer, standing on the dock, and he promised to deliver the letter himself. They waited until they saw him depart with the letter to the *Mayflower*. It was about five o'clock in the afternoon; they had begun their attempt to present their letter to the President at noon.

Mrs. William L. Colt, Miss Harmon and Miss Schofield waited at the office of the Political Equality Association till a late hour for the President's answer, but none came. Next morning Miss Schofield and Miss Harmon again tried to go to the *Mayflower*, but found that all boats had been ordered to keep away from the place until the naval review was over. The President left the city at two o'clock without sending any answer whatever to Mrs. Belmont's letter.

Suffragists are astounded at the President's attitude to their request, and are at a total loss to understand his refusal to acknowledge a letter requesting him to receive a deputation of New York women who are asking for their political rights. Nothing could have been more reasonable than the suffragists' request. Except when President Wilson was reviewing the fleet and the navy men he was occupied only with social functions. He could easily have accorded five minutes from business of this character to listen to the plea of women for political fair dealing. On the *Mayflower* he held a continuous reception of people, and he could perfectly well have seen the representatives of the suffragists there.

If the President were in the right in opposing national woman suffrage, and the women of New York in the wrong, it seemed to them that it was a part of his duty to accord them time to present a matter about which they are so deeply in earnest; his moral obligation to hear them is all the clearer because women form a disfranchised class, and have no way of expressing their hopes and desires at the polls.

In refusing to the women of New York an opportunity to state their case, the President has aroused deep indignation and resentment all over the country.

ACCORDING to the New York *Sun*, Mrs. John Rogers, a member of the Women's Political Union, made the following comment on this incident: "President Wilson has been sneaking away from the suffrage question ever since he was in office, and he knows it," she said. "Why should he go down to Philadelphia and talk to thousands of aliens and then refuse to hear the women of his own country? This is the very time to 'bother' the President. We pay for the fleet as well as the men; we are entitled to have a voice in what it should do.

"The only way to reach President Wilson is to make it as uncomfortable for him as we can and then he will have to listen to us. It is exasperating to see him around here giving patriotic speeches and reviewing the battleships, when he won't even give five minutes to American women. He should be brought to book."

SOME quotations from President Wilson's speech in New York are:

"America, gentlemen, * * * asks nothing for herself except what she has a right to ask for humanity itself."

"When I think of the flag which those ships carry, the only touch of color about them, the only thing that moves as if it had a settled spirit in it, in their solid structure, it seems to me that I see alternate strips of parchment upon which are written the rights of liberty, of justice, and strips of blood spilt to vindicate those rights; and then, in the corner, a prediction of the blue serene into which every nation may swim, which stands for these great things."

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The Susan B. Anthony Amendment

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE .—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

Into Congress, January 10th, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the U. S. Senate.

Reported from Committee,

In the Senate,

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.

In the House,

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate,

January 25th, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26, (of whom 4 were announced as for, and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House,

January 12th, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

"Heckling" the President

AS was to be expected, some protest has arisen because suffragists are "worrying" the President at a time of "great national crisis" when the President has "serious problems to solve and a heavy responsibility to bear."

If women should ever press their demand for political freedom, it is at a time of national crisis. Then the times give proof to the justice of their claim. When grave situations are to be met and great problems solved, it is a deep offence to women that these problems are disposed of without in any way considering the wishes of women. In dull periods of the nation's history, it is difficult to arouse either men or women to national injustices. It is when the nation is awake, when it realizes the connection between private happiness and public policy, that the injustice of disfranchising large sections of the people is most apparent and the opportunity to press their cause is the brightest.

When we look back on such crises in the past and see how at these moments women have withdrawn their claim to take part in the councils which have decided great issues, we marvel at their lack of intuition and spirit. Then if ever, we think, they should have demanded freedom.

When we think of the issues involved in the Civil War and read that at that time the vast majority of women urged that it was the part of wisdom to withdraw their claim for consideration because it was "a time of national crisis" when the "problem of the negro" had to be solved, we recognize at once the abasement of such a policy, and the strategic error of getting "out of the way" at high national moments.

It is true that when the nation has difficulties to meet, it should have united support behind it, but that united support should come freely from a free people. When the people suffer from a real injustice, the best and most lasting service they can make to their country is to demand that the injustice be ended.

The women of this country are suffering under a deep wrong against which they have actively protested for over a century; and their protests have been met with ridicule, with blunt refusal, with trickery and evasion. It is sad to know that some women can still be found who declare that we must not "annoy" the President because he has great problems to consider. He has no problem to consider greater than the freedom of the American people.

And to what "annoyance" have the women of America subjected the President? They have asked him to receive a deputation of their number for a few minutes. He spent two days in New York,—days crowded with social engagements. On Monday afternoon he received a train of people on board the *Mayflower*, one after the other. There is simply no reason to be found for his refusal to receive some women, among all these, who could express for the rest of the women of New York their earnest demand for the right of self-government. There was probably not one person whom the President saw last Monday and Tuesday who had anything half so important to say to him as had the deputation of women whom the President refused to see.

It is not for lack of goodness, or consideration, or patriotism, that women have been so long disfranchised. It is for lack of spirit in realizing the greatness of their cause and making a firm stand upon it, all together, until it is won.

Can the President Help Us?

ANOTHER criticism of the New York suffragists that has come to our ear is that it is a mistake to approach the President on behalf of a national suffrage amendment.

No action can be taken on the federal amendment now, while Congress is adjourned, say these people; and when Congress re-assembles the decision will lie in the hands of its members, and with the state legislatures which ratify federal amendments;—not with the President at all.

Certainly the decision on the federal suffrage amendment is in the hands of Congress. The controlling power in Congress is the majority party, and the leader of the majority party is the President of the United States. There is no other one person in the whole country who has so much power over the question of national woman suffrage as Mr. Wilson has. Because Congress is adjourned is no reason for pausing in our political work. Congressmen themselves are working hard, organizing support for themselves and their measures. We have not a moment to lose if we are to show the President and every Member of Congress the extent of the demand throughout the country for the federal suffrage amendment.

When the President visits one of our cities it is the duty of the women of that city to express to him their desire for a federal amendment, enfranchising women. If he goes from state to state without hearing a word of woman suffrage, how can he know that it is one of the most widely and earnestly supported measures in the political field today? Women can only express their wish for self-government by approaching him in large and representative deputations. If the President will not receive us, we cannot help it; but we can and must request him to receive us. That is the gist of the New York affair.

DELAWARE FOR SUSAN B. ANTHONY AMENDMENT

DEPUTATION OF DELAWARE WOMEN TO CONGRESSMAN MILLER

IF there has ever been any doubt that there is strong support in Delaware for a federal amendment enfranchising women, that doubt must have been dispelled last week when the convention of the Congressional Union was held in Wilmington. The enthusiasm for national action on woman suffrage was marked; and the determination of the women must avail to achieve noticeable results in the 64th session of Congress.

The convention opened with a luncheon at the Hotel duPont on Thursday, May 13, at which Mrs. Henry Ridgely presided most gracefully, opening her introduction of speakers with the heartily applauded remark, "We are gathered here today not merely as Delaware women, but as Americans striving for the enfranchisement of the women of the whole country." Mrs. Edna S. Latimer, of Baltimore, then spoke on the "Economy of Federal Work," pointing out the vast amount of energy, time and money that can be saved by taking the most direct route to enfranchisement by means of national action, rather than the circuitous route of referendum campaigns in each one of thirty-seven states. Mrs. Harry Lowenburg gave an extremely spirited account of her recent visits to the White House to obtain an audience for 1,000 Pennsylvania women with President Wilson while he was in Philadelphia to address recently naturalized citizens.

The chief feature of the business meeting that followed at the home of Mrs. James P. Winchester, was the speech of Miss Lucy Burns, vice-chairman of the Congressional Union, outlining the history of federal work. Miss Burns called attention to the fact that if Miss Anthony were living now, she would not be as slow as present-day suffragists have been to seize the wonderful opportunity presented in Congress, where sit the representatives of nearly 4,000,000 voting women. Since Mrs. Donald R. Hooker, of Baltimore, was unable to be present, Miss Burns was called upon to explain the Shafroth-Palmer amendment. After consideration of this complicated measure, the women present had no difficulty in deciding that they preferred to give their undivided support to the Susan B. Anthony amendment. Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles then gave a review of the policy of the Congressional Union, emphasizing that by every rule of common sense the party in control of national legislation must be held responsible for action on the suffrage amendment. Mrs. Hilles declared, however, that the Congressional Union at this time is in no wise attacking the party in power, but simply endeavoring to make that party understand that a nation-wide demand justifies the submission of the woman suffrage amendment to the legislatures of the various states.

One of the pleasantest features of the convention was the reception Thursday night at the home of Mrs. Francis I. duPont, at which Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, Mrs. Victor duPont and Miss Margaret Wells assisted Mrs. duPont in receiving; Mrs. C. E. Griffith and Mrs. Norman Huxle played several piano duets and Mrs. Marie Haughey sang two delightful selections.

ON Friday morning the most impressive demonstration for suffrage ever made in Delaware occurred before the interview with Representative Thomas W. Miller. Preceded by a band playing spirited tunes, a large delegation of women marched from headquarters to the Federal Building where an open-air meeting was held. First in line came Mrs. Hilles and Mrs. Victor duPont bearing the national and state flags; and then came Mrs. Thomas McGee with the Congressional Union banner followed by the purple, gold and white standard bearing the words, "We demand an amendment to the U. S. Constitution enfranchising women."

After the meeting at the Federal Building at which speeches were made by Mrs. Hilles and Miss Vernon, the procession continued to the Hotel duPont, where the interview with Representative Miller took place. The large Rose Room was completely filled by the women, and around the doors gathered a large crowd of men eager to hear Mr. Miller's answer to the suffragists. Mrs. Hilles spoke first, making clear to the Representative that the suffragists of Delaware desire him to vote for the "Susan B. Anthony" amendment, known in the Sixty-third Congress as the Bristow-Mondell amendment. Mr. Miller, who seemed impressed with the size of the delegation calling for action, then said, in part:

"I would prefer discussing this subject with you informally, but I think it would be best under the circumstances for me to read the following statement of my position, in order that there can be no

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doubt as to just what my intentions are and my reasons therefor.

"About a month ago, when I consented to meet a delegation from the Delaware Equal Suffrage Association, I had no idea that a demonstration of the character and proportions such as has just been given would accompany this interview.

"Woman suffrage is one of the social problems to the fore at the present day and while the body politic is interested in this question, it cannot or at least should not be classed as a political issue by any political party.

"In order for an amendment to the Federal Constitution to be brought before the States, it is necessary for an enabling resolution to pass both houses of Congress by a two-thirds vote, after which it is transmitted by the Secretary of State at Washington to the governors of the several States, who in turn transmit the same to their Legislatures for rejection or ratification. If three-fourths of the States ratify the amendment it becomes a part of the Federal Constitution, otherwise it automatically dies. Final action, it will be seen, is up to the State Legislatures and the part played by the Congress at Washington is to pass an enabling resolution which will permit the State Legislatures to ratify or reject a proposition, or they may take no action whatever if they so desire.

"Today there are twelve States and one territory (Alaska), which have granted universal suffrage to women; twenty-two other States have granted partial suffrage, while the remaining fourteen States do not allow woman suffrage in any form; the latter being composed largely of what is known as the 'solid South.' In the fall of the present year the great commonwealths of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts are to vote on the question of universal suffrage for women—the enabling act in these instances having been allowed by their respective Legislatures. In this connection it will be remembered that our own General Assembly at Dover, during the past session, voted 11 to 6 on this subject in the Senate and 22 to 10 in the House.

"A member of Congress, in addition to the duty of representing his State or district through his voice or action in the national legislature at Washington, should in my opinion consider it is his duty to act as a representative of the United States, or, in other words, of the country at large. When you consider the fact that twelve States have already granted universal suffrage to women and twenty-two additional States have granted partial suffrage, it is plain to be seen that throughout the United States the question should be classed as a national issue. The question is undeniably a pressing one today and the ice of public opinion has been broken through in no uncertain manner, as is evidenced by the figures just mentioned.

"For these reasons I therefore consider that it should be my duty as a national legislator to vote for an enabling resolution, which would place the question of woman suffrage before the several States for their rejection or ratification. Should an enabling resolution, providing for the submission of this question to the several States, come before the Sixty-fourth Congress, it is my present intention to vote for it."

At the business session following, a constitution for the Delaware Branch of the Congressional Union was adopted after some interesting discussion. In the afternoon the following officers were elected: Chairman, Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles; Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Julien Ortiz; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Paul duPont; Treasurer, Mrs. William Staniar. Miss Vernon spoke on the "Plans for Future Work," which aroused great enthusiasm; and after Mrs. Latimer had discussed the ways of accomplishing these plans, the suggestion was made that the Delaware Branch pledge $1,000 for national work, to be paid by next December. The executive committee was instructed to appoint a Finance Committee immediately to devise the ways and means of raising this amount.

Friday evening a reception was held at the Hotel duPont. Miss Elsie Hill gave an inspiring description of the Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony. Miss Elizabeth Oliver, of Swarthmore College, gave an impressive reading of Marion Craig Wentworth's play "War Brides." The subject of the $1,000 pledge was again brought up and $300 of that amount was raised in a little time. Supper was served and the convention was ended.

Delaware women are now declaring that they will never rest satisfied until the two senators from this state are brought to the position that they must vote for the national suffrage amendment because of the irresistible demand of the women of the state.

VOTELESS WOMEN AND THE LABOR PROBLEM

THE social unrest arising from the disfranchisement of women was brought strongly before the Industrial Relations Commission, during its sessions in Washington, by Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict, a well-known student of labor conditions and a member of the Executive Committee of the Congressional Union.

The Commission on Industrial Relations was appointed by the 63d Congress to investigate present causes of social and industrial unrest. They have been holding hearings all over the country; they have summoned before them the great protagonists of the modern industrial battle, and have shed a flood of light on the aims, the scope, the rules and practices of the social warfare of our day.

Up to the present, few women have spoken before the Commission; and no one has spoken on the industrial grievances peculiar to women, and the connection between these grievances and women's present state of almost universal disfranchisement.

The Congressional Union, therefore, sent Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict to testify to the need of women for political power, and to ask the commission, appointed by Congress, to report back to it in favor of a national amendment, prohibiting disfranchisement on the ground of sex.

MRS. BENEDICT is a graduate of Vassar College, and of the New York College of Law; she was member and Secretary of the New York Employers' Liability Commission, and is the author of "Work Accidents and the Law."

In the course of the testimony Mrs. Benedict said:

"I personally feel that the continued disfranchisement of women is one of the causes of social unrest today, both because there goes with it a deep and growing resentment and sense of injustice, that this fundamental right has been denied after so much struggle; and, in addition, because we feel that the denial of political rights to women has actually and practically handicapped them in economic advancement. * * *

"Take, first, government employees. The advertisement for government clerks right here in Washington recites that women start in at $720 per year, and men start in at $900 per year. * * * We know of many positions where women earn $1,400 per year, who, after years of service, are instructing men clerks at $1,800 a year into the duty of their offices; and the men clerks as soon as they are instructed will be passed on further.

"Now that is a comparatively small group of women, but it is small only in the face of the enormous number in the large problem of industrial unrest; and it is a growing group. As the government takes over more and more social activities a greater number of women will be employed by the government. The government sets a standard that women's work is of less value than men's, and it is no wonder that private industry follows that standard.

"Now, let us take the position of women in industry as a whole. There are about 8,000,000 women wage workers in this country today. This 8,000,000 women is about 24 per cent of the industrial population. If this rate of increase continues, in 1920 50 per cent of all those gainfully employed will be women. In all these ocupations, no matter how low the wages of men are, the wages of women are lower.

"Let me give you a fact from a most recent exhaustive inquiry made in New York, covering four trades, the confectionery trade, the paper-box-making trade, the shirt factories and the retail stores. In these stores which employed over 90,000 persons for whom weekly rates were given, more than three-fifths of the male workers received less than fifteen dollars per week, while more than three-fourths of the women received less than ten dollars a week. In the stores half the males got less than fourteen dollars a week, and half the females got less than seven dollars and fifty cents a week. In the shirt factories half the men got less than twelve dollars a week, and half the women less than six dollars and fifty cents.

"Now, then, the question is—Has this any relation to the vote? * * * Not a direct relation,—except in government employ. Women must raise their wages as the men have raised theirs, by organization. But certainly the vote has been essential to labor in winning what it has won. It is not always the actual casting of the ballot; it is not always the exact control over the legislature which you have put in office, but it is the fact that the vote makes the person a little less defenseless in the face of power than he would be if he did not have the vote. I just want to give one historic illustration of this.

"The greatest strike by women, I guess in the world, was the shirt-waist strike in New York. During that strike the women pickets were subjected to probably as crude a line of police abuse as any striker ever has been subjected to. After that, some 50,000 of them marched down through the streets of New York, with their women supporters, to see the Mayor, and appeal to him, not in the interest of their demands, but in the interest of police protection and fair treatment from the administration, and the Mayor refused to see them. He said he was not interested. Now, regardless of how powerless the men workers of today are, and we have many instances before us of that, I doubt if it would be possible to find in the history of the United States any instance in which 50,000 voters, no matter how poor and down-trodden, have gone to see an elected official and been refused admission—refused an interview. * * *

"It is not true that that vast majority of women who do not work for wages, do not work. It is not true that they have no economic responsibility; it is true they have not economic reward of any definite character. They are relieved of economic reward and not of economic responsibility. And so women, especially the poor ones,—because I am not now speaking of the very few who actually are supported by men, but women who work in homes, who work on farms, who cook and wash and sew, who produce children and train them and keep them clean, who work as all honest people know,—they have no recognized economic reward. * * *

"Now, some solution of the problem of these women must be worked out by this commission, if this cause of social unrest is to be removed; and I cannot see any way it can be done except through legislation; and I cannot see how legislation can be achieved until the great mass of women have some representation. * * *

"I therefore urge that this Industrial Relations Commission recommend the passing of a Federal Amendment,—which would prohibit the states from denying the right of suffrage on the ground of sex. * * * This reform I am talking about, granting suffrage to women, has no business in the 20th Century, this is an 18th Century question we are talking about. Now, I think it would be a great thing if you could clear the decks of this whole question of giving women political rights. Get that out of the way; make the biggest possible body of free labor; make the intelligent women in this country free to help in working out the labor problems of the future,—free from this humiliating demand, which they will not cease to make until they win."

CAMPAIGN THROUGH THE COUNTRY

California

Headquarters: *Congressional Union Booth in the Palace of Education, Exposition Grounds, San Francisco.*
Chairman: *Miss Charlotte Anita Whitney.*
Organizer: *Miss Margaret Fay Whittemore.*

IN spite of the fact that wet weather has decreased the Exposition crowds, as many have visited the Suffrage Booth this week as during the days of normal attendance.

Preparations for the State Conference to be held here the first and second of June are absorbing most of the energies of the active California members this week. The first meeting of the Committee making plans for the Conference program was called by Miss Charlotte Anita Whitney, State Chairman of the Union, last Tuesday, the 11th of May.

Miss Whitney acted as chairman of the meeting. Those present, including members of the National Advisory Council and prominent members of the Union in and near San Francisco were: Mrs. Lillian Harris Coffin, Mrs. Austin Sperry, Miss Gail Laughlin, Mrs. George Sperry, Miss Julia George, Mrs. Ida Finney Mackrille, Mrs. Alice Park, of Palo Alto, Mrs. Elizabeth Gerberding, and Miss Frances Joliffe.

It was determined that three sessions are to be held during the June Conference. On the first day there will be a business session and an open meeting at which the policy and plans of the Union will be explained by two speakers, Mrs. William Kent and Miss Gail Laughlin, the latter giving the history of the Federal amendment.

The final dramatic session of the State Convention will be held at Festival Hall on the Exposition grounds, taking the form of an International Suffrage rally at which ten foreign nations which have enfranchised women, and the twelve suffrage States of the Union, with Alaska added, will be represented by women speakers, many of them wearing the costume of their native land. Interludes of foreign national music will add to the interest of the program. The majority of foreign representatives who are interested in the freedom of all women are gathered from the distinguished visitors to the Exposition. The gathering will bring together a group of women who possibly could have been assembled at no other time. Many of these women have visited the booth with growing interest since it opened.

The nations to participate are Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, The Isle of Man, Australia, New Zealand, China, Alaska and the twelve enfranchised States: Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Illinois, Montana, Nevada, Idaho and Kansas.

The women in charge of this meeting with me are Mrs. George Hough Perry, Mrs. Ida Finney Mackrille, Mrs. George Sperry, and Mrs. Elizabeth Gerberding. The committee in charge of framing a tentative constitution for the State Congressional Union are Mrs. Lillian Harris Coffin, of the Advisory Council; Mrs. Alice Park, and Miss Julia George. Miss Frances Joliffe, a brilliant newspaper writer, is in charge of the State Publicity work, with Mrs. Elizabeth Gerberding, chairman of the committee on speakers.

Margaret Fay Whittemore.

Illinois

Organizer: *Miss Gertrude L. Crocker, 109 S. Elm Street, Hinsdale.*

I SPOKE before a meeting of the Civic League of the First Precinct in the Sixth Ward. All those not already members joined the Union. On Friday we held a Congressional Union luncheon at Carson Pirie's. We are planning to do this every Tuesday at 12:30, and hope that anyone interested in the Union will join us at luncheon.

On Tuesday evening, May 18, a meeting will be held at the home of Miss Maud Clark, 5337 Harper Avenue; Miss Irene Garrity and Miss Ruth Noyes are to speak. *Gertrude L. Crocker.*

Pennsylvania

Secretary: *Mrs. L. M. B. Mitchell, 3320 Arch St., Philadelphia.*

A MEETING of the Philadelphia Committee of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage was held on Friday, May 14, at 3320 Arch Street.

New officers were elected as follows:

Mrs. Harry Lowenburg, Chairman; Miss Harriet Dulles, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. Henry Justice, Treasurer; Mrs. L. M. B. Mitchell, Secretary.

The immediate work before the committee was discussed and agreed upon with the result that Mrs. Lowenburg, chairman of the committee, and Mrs. Edwin C. Grice, a member of the Advisory Council of the Congressional Union, will undertake to arrange for delegations to go during the coming months to all members of Congress from Pennsylvania. *L. M. B. Mitchell.*

Oregon

Headquarters: 514 *Eilers Building, Portland.*
Organizer: *Miss Virginia Arnold.*

NATIONAL woman suffrage featured yesterday in the big Portland parade that celebrated the opening of the great Celilo Canal. The Congressional Union auto, flying its banners of purple, white, and gold, received appreciative applause as it passed along. The voting women suffragists that filled the auto were dressed in white, wore the regalia, and bore huge baskets of Portland roses. Hundreds of these roses were strewn all along the march to the interested spectators who read the appropriate slogans of "Help the 20,000,000 unfree women of the East," "We demand an amendment to the United States Constitution enfranchising women," and "Support the Susan B. Anthony Amendment for National Woman Suffrage" which decked the sides of the automobile. The children were made especially happy as they caught the roses that were showered upon them, for the women found it hard to resist their eager, upturned faces. "This scattering of roses to little children," said Col. Chas. R. Reeves, "is symbolic of what may come into the lives of all little children throughout this entire land when every mother in the United States has her full right to freedom."

To complete the day, *The Suffragist* was sold in the evening to the crowds as they came out of the big Orpheum Theater meeting, where the governors, senators, and representatives from the states of Idaho, Montana, and Washington were the guests of honor and the principle speakers of the evening.

Of interest to those who advocate federal action for woman suffrage, will be the following bit of political acumen which came from a voting woman. Speaking of the Shafroth-Palmer Amendment, I said to her, "They are introducing this amendment, I am told, for the purpose of keeping the matter of woman suffrage before the public." "Well," she smilingly said, "they'll doubtless keep it there a *long time!*"

On Tuesday of this week I spoke before the Alameda Tuesday Afternoon Club on the "Urgent Need of the Voting Woman's Support of the National Suffrage Amendment." Tomorrow I speak at the Grange meeting at Lents.

Virginia Arnold.

The Congressional Union's Auto in the Demonstration Attending the Opening of the Celilo Canal, Portland, Oregon, May 6, 1915

Treasurer's Report

Make All Checks Payable to
The Treasurer of the Congressional Union
1420 F St., Washington, D. C.
This Will Save Much Inconvenience

Treasurer's Note

MR. J. W. BRYAN, ex-Congressman from Washington, writes from his own state: "I am always delighted with *The Suffragist* and the record of the work it is doing. There is not the slightest doubt that you are carrying on a *very effective* campaign. You are doing a big work; keep it up."

There is a big work to do for all women today. Will you not take part in it by sending a subscription to our campaign fund?

CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD $100,000 FUND FOR SECURING THE PASSAGE OF THE FEDERAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

(Fund opened December 7th, 1912. Donations, membership fees and tickets are here listed; receipts from the purely business departments of "The Suffragist" and the Literature Committee are not included.)

LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MAY 12 THROUGH MAY 18

Belle Bassett Blackley	1.00
Mrs. Sophie Meredith	1.00
Anonymous	25.00
Mrs. Helena Hill Weed	5.00
Miss Eliza Tonks	1.00
Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Jr	78.00
Miss Mabel Vernon	15.00
Mrs. Margaret Kessler	1.00
Mrs. L. H. Montgomery	1.00
Mrs. Nevil Monroe Hopkins	4.00
Mr. Grafton Greenough	10.00
Miss Cornelia Greenough	1.00
Miss Laura Kelly	.10
Miss Rose Weston	.06
Mrs. Edith W. Carter	.05
Miss Doris Stevens	10.00
Collections	.25
Membership fees	23.50
Sale of tickets	144.00
Total	$320.96
Previously acknowledged in *The Suffragist*	63,138.54
Total through May 18, 1915	$63,459.50

New Members of the Congressional Union

AMONG the new members who are increasing the strength of the Congressional Union in Missouri are Miss E. Blanche Reinecke, a leading photographer in Kansas City; Mrs. Edwin A. Knapp, editor of the Women's Department of the Kansas City *Post*, Vice-Chairman of the Press Committee of the Missouri Equal Suffrage Association, Chairman of the Publicity Committee of the National Old Trails Road Committee of the D. A. R., and Vice-Chairman of the Press Committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. George W. Fuller, President of the Kansas City Athæneum; Mrs. Henry L. McCume, wife of a prominent Kansas City lawyer, Judge McCume, and Mrs. James Ellison, wife of Judge Ellison, of the Court of Appeals.

Committee of One Hundred

MRS. GEORGE T. HENDRIE, a member of the Executive Board of the Wayne County (Michigan) Woman Suffrage Association, has become a member of Mrs. Kent's Committee of One Hundred. The object of this committee is to raise a fund which will support the national headquarters of the Congressional Union.

1,000 New Subscribers

MISS ALICE TREUTHART, of Portsmouth, Ohio, writes in renewing her subscription to *The Suffragist*, "I certainly endorse the work being done by your wonderful paper."

Will every subscriber who endorses our work help it by sending another subscription to *The Suffragist?*

MEMBERS WHO HAVE SECURED NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO THE SUFFRAGIST MAY 4 THROUGH MAY 17

Miss Frances Frothingham	4
Mrs. Grace B. Muschamp	1
Miss Marie Haupt	1
Mrs. E. S. Evans	1
Mrs. Charles B. Meredith	2
Miss Mabel Vernon	3
Dr. Kate S. Stanton	5
Mrs. J. Borden Estee	2
Miss Ruth Astor Noyes	4
Miss Emma F. Baxter	1
Mrs. Margaret W. Kessler	1
Mrs. George H. Day	1
Miss Alice Paul	4
Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Jr	1
Mrs. W. S. Moore	1
Mrs. Annie E. Seitzinger	1
Mrs. E. C. Thompson	3
Mrs. M. K. Macarty	2
Secured through Mrs. W. T. Burch—	
Mrs. Marsden Perry	2
Mrs. W. T. Burch	4
	6
	44
Previously acknowledged in *The Suffragist*	833
Total through May 17	877

Organizing the Country Behind the Susan B. Anthony Amendment

THE organizing of branches of the Congressional Union in each state for the support of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment in the next Congress is now well under way. Three branches, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia, each organized with a state constitution and state officers, have already been established this month. Plans have been made for a sucession of conventions at which similar branches will be established in the remaining states.

DURING the week Miss Alice Paul held an all-day conference in Cleveland with the Executive Board of the Ohio State Woman Suffrage Association with regard to organizing a branch of the Congressional Union in Ohio. The Ohio Board reaffirmed, at the conference, its allegiance to the Susan B. Anthony Amendment and assured Miss Paul of the support which it would give, in every way possible, to that amendment. The Board also passed a resolution expressing its disapproval of the Shafroth-Palmer Amendment and asking the National American Woman Suffrage Association to cease its support of that measure. Mrs. Dora Bachman, one of the members of the Ohio Board, who was present at the conference, gave her name as one of the signers to the call convening the Congressional Union Convention in Ohio. Mrs. Julius F. Stone, a former member of the Ohio Board, was present for the better part of the Conference and undertook the organization of the Union's convention in the state. The date agreed upon was June 17 and 18, and the place, Columbus. At the close of the conference the Ohio Board expressed its interest in the work of the Congressional Union and its intention of assisting it in accordance with the invitation previously extended to the Union to enter the state.

MRS. AGNES JENKS, President of the Rhode Island Woman Suffrage Association, went during the past week to Philadelphia to confer there with Miss Paul, concerning the organizing of the Union in Rhode Island. Mrs. Jenks stated that she was desirous of having a branch of the Union in Rhode Island and would do everything possible to aid in the convention and in the organization work there.

LATER in the week a conference was held in New York with Miss Harriet Bain, member of the Board of the Wisconsin Suffrage Association, and Mrs. W. E. Hardy, Treasurer of the Nebraska Suffrage Association, at which plans were made for introducing branches of the Congressional Union in these states. Miss Bain assured Miss Paul that she was desirous of seeing the Union organized in Wisconsin and that immediately upon her return to the state she would give her personal aid to starting the work there. Mrs. Hardy made the same promise with regard to Nebraska.

FROM New Mexico Mrs. Jose Chaves, who has undertaken the organization of the New Mexico convention of the Congressional Union, writes that Miss Mary A. Church, one of the leading women of the state, will help her make the convention an enthusiastic success; other New Mexico women are also lending their co-operation.

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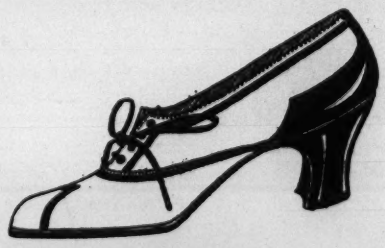

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